

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
In-Person at Recreation Office, Old Orchard Road
August 11, 2021

Present in-person: Ed Casarella, Barbara Komins, Allie Davis, Christine Mickle (Director)

Present on Zoom: Chrissy LaBranche

Meeting called to order at 5:35 PM.

Motion made by Allie Davis to approve last month's minutes, Barbara Komins seconded.

Correspondence:

From the Library regarding pop-up library box looking for temporary location at Field of Dreams. Rec Comm voted 4/0 in favor of allowing the library to put it up near playground at F.O.D.

Appointments: Officers - Voted to keep Ed Casarella as Recreation Commission Chair, Allie Davis made a motion and Chrissy LaBranche seconded. All in favor.

Allie Davis nominated to be the new Recording Secretary, Ed Casarella made a motion, Chrissy LaBranche seconded. All in favor.

Director's Report:

Summer recreation will end on Friday, August 13th. The program was good overall, but challenging. There were 56 children, however, about 8 to 10 children could have used a 1/1 counsellor, so made it difficult with staff shortages. The program being run at the elementary school was good because ECEC was there as well as summer school. Other programs also noticed that children/student's behavior was more difficult to deal with this summer.

There were no extra programs. Not enough staff. Some parents were frustrated and some parents emailed to express their frustration to the Rec Department.

Beaches being staffed at gates until the Monday after Labor Day and then weekends through September.

For Fall, hope to run soccer. Working on afterschool program which will start after done with beaches.

Old Business:

Field of Dreams - waiting to hear about dugouts from CC Tech. Need to wait for school to start.

Wiley Park - bids going out and purchasing equipment.

New Business:

T-Time - Community Center will definitely be part of the planning and details to follow. T-Time Committee will try and reach out to the younger generation because they weren't represented well in the survey that was sent out. In the meantime, the town was given a grant to fix up T-Time area (resurface tennis courts, make path to bike trail, etc.) Rec Dept hoping to use area in October to do some events such as pumpkin carving and a movie.

Conservation Commission Meeting - the application for shellfish aquaculture to drive year round on the beach going forward, passed at town meeting. Conservation Commission waiting to hear back from other agencies such as Division of Marine Fisheries and Audubon regarding this. Asked Rec Comm to submit our letter again and attend the meeting on August 24th. Many details need to be worked out. Rec Comm supports the shellfishing industry but are still concerned about the safety of beach goers and beach access.

Next meeting is set for September 8th at 5:30pm.

Meeting adjourned at 6:05 PM, motion made by Barbara Komins, seconded by Ed Casarella.